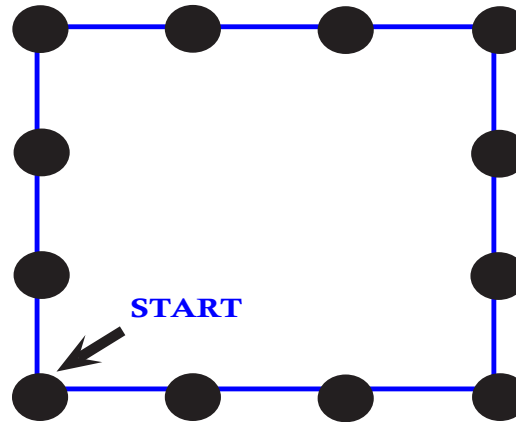


PIMA STICK GAME

The Pima Stick Game is located in the garden portico behind the Visitor Center. It's both fun and a great way for students to learn about the Piman (*O'odham*) culture at Tumacácori.

The Pima Indians

Prehistorically, the northern, or Pima Indian nation covered a large geographic area in what is today Southern Arizona and northern Sonora, Mexico. Their territory ran from the Gila River (near Phoenix, Arizona) on the north to the Sonora River Hermosillo, Sonora) in the south, and from the Colorado River (Yuma, Arizona) on the west to the San Pedro River (Sierra Vista, Arizona) in the east. They farmed the river valleys, harvested the natural desert plants and hunted in the mountains. In their villages, especially during winter evenings when their farming and hunting activities were limited, they often played games to pass the time. One such game was the "stick game" or "*Ginz*," played on a large "game board" marked out in a square on the ground. Each player moved a pebble around the square. The number of spaces the pebble was moved depended on how the markings on a set of four sticks fell when they were tossed in the air, very similar to the rolling of modern-day dice. The markings on the sticks had names such as "old man" and "old woman." The object was to move the pebble all the way around the square - once or several times depending on how long they wanted the game to last.



Move one space forward



Move two spaces forward



Move forward to end of row



Move backward to end of row

How to Play the Pima Stick Game

Each player chooses a small rock for a token to move around the square.

The players take turns tossing the sticks in the air to determine the number and kind of moves they will make.

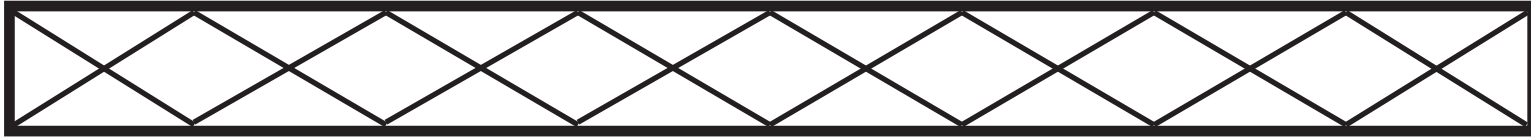
Each person uses all four sticks during his or her play.

Toss the sticks by holding the sticks lightly in one hand and hitting the bottom of them with your other hand or a rock, allowing the sticks to fall as they may.

Remember, this is a game of strategy. The order in which the player chooses to play the sticks will determine how far forward his or her advance around the board will be.

The first player to get completely around the board three times wins.

Have fun!



Move one space forward



Move two spaces forward



Move forward to the end of row



Move backward to the end of row